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The mechanical execution of the book is excellent. The illustrations are good. We have noticed only two or three typographical errors, one on page 166, 5th line from bottom, and one on page 434, lines 17, 18 and 19. This last error occurs probably through no fault of the author, though it is a bad blunder on the part of the "make-up."

The author very frequently refers to cuts in other parts of the work by their numbers, without giving the pages on which they are found. This is simply maddening. The number of the cut and the page on which it is found should both be given. The paper upon which the book is printed contains no mechanical wood-pulp to impair its lasting qualities.

Quite a number of topics usually treated in books on this subject are not treated at all in this work. For example: Guided handwriting, left hand writing, writing in the hypnotic state, insane handwriting, copying, colored and safety inks, and some other topics of more or less importance.

The appendix on "Finger Prints" has no relevancy whatever to handwriting, and in it the author is in error. On page 479 he states that "it is clear that no two human hands in all the world can be just alike in all these complex parts." The italics are our own. This statement shows how dangerous it is to deal in bright and glittering generalities, especially in fields of learning with which one is not familiar. If the reader will consult "The World Today," Vol. IX, page 1000, he will find a truly remarkable case where not only the Bertillon system but the Galton system of identification by finger-prints utterly failed to distinguish persons charged with crime.

Altogether, however, the book is an advance on all of its predecessors on the subject of disputed handwriting, except one, and that one, though not a general treatise, is to our mind the most satisfactory exemplification of the art of identifying disputed handwriting of anything ever published. We refer, of course, to "The Handwriting of Junius," by Mr. Chabot, unfortunately long since out of print.

Marshall D. Ewell.

Chicago, Ill.

CASES ON WILLS, DESCENT AND ADMINISTRATION. By George P. Costigan, Jr., Professor of Law in Northwestern University. American Case Book Series. St. Paul: West Publishing Company. 1910. Pp. 781.

This is the latest volume of the American Case Book Series. It is believed to be the most thorough collection yet published on this subject. Much matter that finds no representation in Professor Gray's Cases on Property, Vol. IV, is here touched upon. For example, the matter of "Testamentary Capacity and Intent" is adequately treated, as is also the distinction between wills and other dispositions of property. The subject of "Descent" is very well treated. This subject is particularly difficult of presentation in a case book which is intended for use in different jurisdictions in America, and the author has covered it very well, not devoting an inordinate space to it.

An examination of the cases cited shows that the English authorities which lie at the foundation of many of the doctrines treated in the book, and which may well be said to be classical, are freely used. In addition, the book contains many recent cases from the American courts. An examination of the American cases cited shows that the author has used excellent judgment in his selection of them, both in the matter of the jurisdictions from which they are chosen and in the choice of strong, well-written opinions. An appendix contains the English Statutes, which are largely the model of American Statutes, on the subject of "Wills." The book has a good index, and the matter of footnotes has been very well handled, as they are not overloaded with citations.

O. J. R.